

## CLAIMS

1. A protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 or 5.
- 5 2. A protein which comprises an amino acid sequence in which one or several amino acids in the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 or 5 have been replaced, deleted, and/or added, and which is functionally equivalent to the protein of claim 1.
- 10 3. A protein which is encoded by a DNA hybridizing to the DNA comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3, and which is functionally equivalent to the protein of claim 1.
4. A DNA encoding the protein of <sup>claim 1</sup> ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~.
5. A vector comprising the DNA of claim 4.
6. A transformant comprising the DNA of claim 4 in an expressible manner.
- 15 7. A method of producing <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ protein of ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ comprising <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ steps of culturing the transformant <sup>then</sup> ~~of claim 6~~, and <sup>a</sup> ~~collecting~~ the expressed protein from said transformant or the culture supernatant thereof. <sup>claim 1</sup>
- 20 8. An antibody binding to the protein of ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~.
9. A DNA specifically hybridizing to a DNA comprising the nucleotide sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOS: 1 to 3, and comprising at least 15 nucleotides.

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